

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA F. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HÅGAN GUÅHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Via Hand Delivery
and E-mail to: speaker@guamlegislature.org

May 23, 2023

HONORABLE THERESE M. TERLAJE
Speaker
I Mina'trentai Siette Na Liheslaturan Guåhan
37th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagåtña, Guam 96910

RE: EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-03

Hafa Adai Madame Speaker:

Pursuant to Public Law 34-16, transmitted herewith is the following Executive Order:

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-03: RELATIVE TO MANDATORY EVACUATION OF
LOW-LYING COASTAL AREAS OF GUAM IN ANTICIPATION OF TYPHOON
MAWAR**

Thank you.

Senseremente,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Leslie A. Travis".

LESLIE A. TRAVIS
Legal Counsel

Enclosure: Executive Order No. 2023-03

cc via email: *Maga'hågan Guåhan*
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Hon. Robert J. Torres, Jr., Chief Justice of Guam
Compiler of Law
Central Files



ISLAND OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
HAGATNA, GUAM 96932
U.S.A.

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2023-03

**RELATIVE TO MANDATORY EVACUATION OF LOW-LYING COASTAL AREAS
OF GUAM IN ANTICIPATION OF TYPHOON MAWAR**

WHEREAS, on May 21, 2023, I issued Executive Order No. 2023-02 in anticipation of the approach of Tropical Storm Mawar; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2023, Tropical Storm Mawar was upgraded to a typhoon. As of the time of this writing, it is anticipated that Typhoon Mawar will be a high Category 3 typhoon, with sustained winds of 125mph. Typhoon Mawar is further intensifying, with the possibility of advancing to a Category 4 typhoon or a supertyphoon. Further, Guam is in the direct path of Typhoon Mawar and it is anticipated our island will be directly hit or a very near-miss. Typhoon Mawar represents the closest impact of any typhoon of this magnitude on our island in over twenty (20) years; and

WHEREAS, Typhoon Mawar poses a substantial risk of catastrophic damage to our island and devastating harm to our people. Notwithstanding the emergency declaration in Executive Order No. 2023-02, it is critical that we take more significant action now to ensure the protection of our people and to save lives; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that low-lying coastal villages, particularly those in the south of Guam, will be severely impacted, due to the high potential for storm surges, high water levels, dangerous surf, mudslides, and flooding; and

WHEREAS, the earliest anticipated time of arrival of tropical storm force conditions is on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 in the early evening; and

WHEREAS, the storm surge has the potential to flood coastal regions of the our island as Typhoon Mawar makes it initial approach. It is therefore necessary for individuals to evacuate the low lying areas prior to the arrival of Typhoon Mawar; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we immediately evacuate affected areas, and get our people to safety.

NOW THEREFORE, I, LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO, I Maga'hågan Guåhan, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam as amended, do hereby order:

- 1. EVACUATION OF LOW LYING, FLOOD-PRONE AND COASTAL AREAS.** All residents in low lying, flood-prone and coastal areas, especially in the southern villages of Inalahan, Ipan, Talofof, Malesso, Hagat and Umatac, are



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ordered to evacuate and seek shelter in private residences or designated government shelters in higher elevation no later than 6:00 p.m., on May 23, 2023.

- a. The Guam National Guard is ordered to assist with the evacuation ordered herein, including the provision of transportation and other assistance necessary for the safe evacuation of the identified areas.
 - b. Pursuant to 10 GCA Section 65111, I further direct that the National Guard may regulate the control of traffic necessary to facilitate the rapid and safe movement of evacuees and government personnel assisting in the evacuation effort.
 - c. Mayors and mayoral staff are further authorized to assist in the evacuation of residents in their villages.
 - d. Due to the likelihood of a strong storm surge, all residents are to avoid coastal areas. The warning time for storms, while relatively predictable, is unlike a storm surge, which is far more unpredictable and of great concern. When sea levels rise, residents will have merely minutes to evacuate and respond. Thus, we must prepare now and anticipate the worst.
2. **SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this Executive Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Order that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this order are severable.
3. **PRIOR ORDERS REMAIN IN EFFECT.** All prior Executive Orders remain in full force and effect except to the extent they conflict with this Order.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam, this 23rd day of May, 2023.

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
Maga'hågan Guåhan
Governor of Guam

Attested by:

JOSHUA F. TENORIO
Sigundo Maga'låhen Guåhan
Lt. Governor of Guam

